

THE BULL



Volume 2, Number 6

Peabody Veterans' Memorial High School, Peabody, Mass.

May, 1972

NOW THAT WE HAVE AN OPEN CAMPUS...

(based on an interview with Mr. Eager)

A year ago students at P.V.M.H.S. were intrigued with the idea of having an open campus. Principal Welch, in line with student ideas, sent a group of Peabody teachers and students, which included Mr. Eager, to inquire about and study open campuses at other public high schools.

The group visited schools throughout the state and by observation arrived at the decision that an open campus can be functional at a high school level. And, besides, they found it to be an added incentive in education. The group became known as the 'Open Campus Committee' and, after numerous meetings, came up with an open campus proposal.

The proposal was passed by the school committee and required only state approval. The state rejected the proposal because it had been drawn up by a committee consisting of teachers and students and did not represent the ideas of parents and businessmen in the community.

A second committee was formed. This committee did include



(Photos by Paul O'Leary)

parents and businessmen and a second proposal was submitted for state approval. Several weeks ago the open campus proposal was approved by the state.

Now that we have an open campus program its important that you, the student, understand the official definition of an "open campus". Despite many misconceptions among students, administrators explain the open campus as "an educational program." It has been designed to create an

attitude in which students can contribute to their own education." An open campus would also better relationships between the students, the school administration and the community.

There are two main parts in the open campus program: the inside program and the outside program.

The inside program begins with a choice of courses of interest to the students. These courses, lasting one to

ten weeks, have been offered as an alternative to study halls. Surveys have already been taken among students for the courses they want.

Inside open campus program also includes open library, open audio centers, open gym, open student lounge and class auditing (allowing students to sit in on classes they might be interested in taking). In addition, the tutoring program will be expanded.

Among student misconceptions: the open campus program will include open basements and a student smoking lounge. The program does not provide for an open basement. School administrators say basements are only supervised due to student vandalism, so if the Student Council can claim that no vandalism had been committed by students, and this is my own personal opinion, for let's say two semesters, perhaps the Administration would allow an experimental 'open basement.' The Student Council, not the Open Campus Committee, has been working on the idea of a smoking lounge. If a student smoking lounge ever came about at P.V.M.H.S., which I doubt, it wouldn't last long because

continued on page 3

Two PVMHS State Fair Winners

Bruce Schurmann and Mark Goldberg were the only P.V.M.H.S. students who entered the State Science Fair and both of them won awards for their exhibits: Bruce Schurmann's "Finite State Automata and Its Application to Stimulated Life" and Mark Goldberg's "Respiration and Growth Rate of Various Seeds."

But before entering their exhibits at the State Fair they had to win the North Shore Regional Science Fair on April 7th and 8th at Salem State College. There they competed against 35 other students from 13 high schools and were among the 13 Fair winners.

MIT Rockwell Cage was the setting for the 23rd annual Massachusetts State Science Fair on April 14th and 15th. Along with the other 11 winners of their Region were our boys with their exhibits. This time they were competing against 141 students from 7 regions across the state.

The exhibits, many of which

were the culmination of many months of research and experimentation, were in such varied fields as optics, psychology, nutrition and electronics.

The emphasis was on contemporary issues, with many projects searching for the answers to current problems, such as air and water pollution, alcoholism and cancer.

The awards were presented on April 15th to the exhibitors at an award ceremony held at MIT's Kresge Auditorium. Seven scholarships totaling 2950 dollars were also awarded. Bruce Schurmann and another student from Randolph High were the two candidates chosen to attend the National Youth Science Camp in West Virginia.

Besides the NYSC nomination, Bruce Schurmann won a first award for his exhibit. And Mark Goldberg won a first award for his exhibit.

P.V.M.H.S. should be just as excited of educational victories as they are of sport victories.



(Photos by Paul O'Leary)

After Representative David Bartley's recent visit to our school, The Bull was able to obtain some exclusive photographs. Shown here is Rep. Bartley speaking to the Seniors on such issues as pollution, war, voting, and others. This was the second assembly of this nature sponsored by the Senior Class. Hopefully, the auditorium will be completed in the near future, so that all the students will have the opportunity to attend these excellent gatherings.



BARTLEY

FACULTY STUDENT ADVISOR

The Faculty-Student Advisory Council is now in existence to advise the administration on matters of school policy, routines and procedures relating to student body behavior, rights, responsibilities and privileges.

Students may appeal to any member of the Council regarding any matter of school policy. The problem must be stated in writing and given to a Council member. It will be reviewed by the Council and a determination will be made regarding the necessity of a recommendation on the matter.

Students and teachers are urged to re-read the printed notice on Corrective Measures for Disciplinary Infractions to be sure their problem pertains

to school policy. Each home-room should have a copy of this notice on the bulletin board.

If there are any questions regarding this notice please feel free to contact any member of this Council for an explanation.

The Faculty members of the Council are:

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Mrs. Goldsmith A-203
Mrs. Johnson C-392
Miss Berthiaume A-325
Mr. Doe B-108
Mr. Smynioss Phys.
Ed. Office

The student members of the Council are:
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George Ronan C-389

Juniors:

Maria Mendonsa B-354
Sue St. Pierre B-357

Sophomores:

Kathy Kalavretanos
A-320
Kathy Walsh C-399

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pvmhs variety show

On Thursday night, May 4th, the annual PVMHS variety show drew a sizeable crowd to the Higgins Jr. High auditorium. The variety show lasted well through the evening with over 25 acts by PVMHS students. And what a variety show it was with solos, duets, chorus, band, dancers, folk groups, barber shop quartet, piano, guitars and an accordionist. Songs included: "I'd Like To Teach The World To Sing," "For All We Know," "Green Eyed Lady", "Yesterday", "Theme from Zorba," "Second Hand Rose," "You've Made Me Very Happy," "Put On a Happy Face," "Put Your Hand In The Hand," "Let There Be Peace On Earth," "Going Out Of My Head," "On A Clear Day," "More," "I'm Afraid To Go Home In The Dark," "Theme From Love Story," "Indian Reservation," "All I Ever Need Is You," and a chorus finale.

This year's suprise was the PVMHS rock band and the Barber Shop quartet which made the audience "so very happy." Talent is a wonderful thing in that it may be possessed by only one but can be enjoyed by many.

This year's show, under the direction of Mrs. Brett and Mr. Evans, provided for a highly enjoyable evening. And for those of you who didn't show up, ... well, you didn't miss much but you did miss something.

hopeful Presidential candidate: GEORGE McGOVERN



George McGovern

SENATOR GEORGE McGOVERN: Sen. McGovern won 102 out of 102 delegate votes in Mass. on Tuesday, April 25th. How McGovern won the popular vote by almost 2 to 1 is no mystery to the hundreds of Mass. youths who worked on his campaign. A lot of door-knocking and sidewalk campaigning made McGovern win in this state. "McGovernism" can best be described as a sincere, honest, steady, and humane approach to the political issues of our time. He has accomplished one of the hardest goals in politics of modern times: the joining together of students and blue-collar workers as a strong political force. Several Democrats don't want McGovern in Miami but, I wouldn't be suprised to see McGovern become the President because the silent majority isn't as silent anymore and they aren't Nixonists either.



Hubert H. Humphrey

SENATOR HUBERT HUMPHREY: Sen. Humphrey won a decisive victory at the Penn. primaries. It is now a clear-cut battle between Humphrey and McGovern for the presidency. Humphrey's advantage over McGovern: money and support of businessmen. McGovern and Humphrey are good friends and Humphrey regards McGovern as the best candidate running besides himself naturally. Humphrey will never become President because of his affiliation with the unpopular Johnson Administration.



Edmund S. Muskie

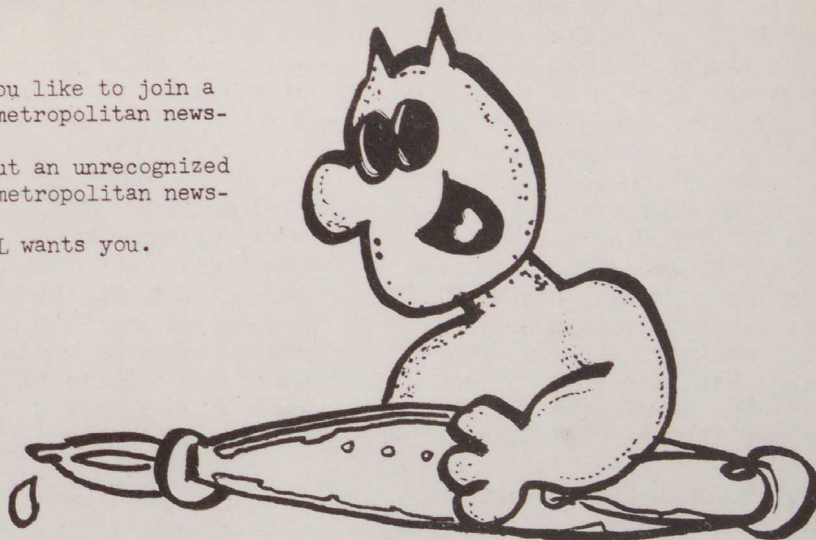
SENATOR EDMUND MUSKIE: Sen. Muskie, the over confident senator from Maine, announced his withdrawal from the presidential race after the Mass.-Penn. primaries because of lack of funds. Muskie's political career is the biggest sob story in Washington. Muskie's problem started in N.H. after he emotionally broke up over a newspaper article. People always regarded Muskie as a strong political personalite and soon beame disenchanted with Muskie. Maine seems like it's going to have a heartbroken Senator on their hands. Well, as the old saying in Maine goes; you win some and you loose some.



George C. Wallace

SUPRISING GEORGE WALLACE: George Wallace stunned the Democratic party with his one-day campaigning victories in the North. Why do so many people like Wallace? Well, that's a good question; I suppose it's because he speaks about political change for the god-fearing, taxpaying people. How he plans to make these changes within the system is a puzzler since they have been trying to do that for decades. His campaign is the oldest trick in the book and he has sucessfully welded together the conservatives, Birchers and Bunkers into a political force. Well, you can be assured he will not be able to trick 12% of the voters; they're black.

Would you like to join a famous metropolitan newspaper?
How about an unrecognized famous metropolitan newspaper?
THE BULL wants you.



NOW THAT WE HAVE AN OPEN CAMPUS (contd. from pg. 1)

or numerous rules and restrictions that would accompany it. Let's make it perfectly clear that an open basement and student smoking lounge are not part of the open campus program.

The outside program features two activities: working in Peabody schools and making community resources available for student use. Peabody Chamber of Commerce, along with various social agencies, have expressed enthusiastic acceptance of the program allowing students to observe or work at various businesses during the school day.

Transportation to and from the outside program activities depends entirely upon the students or their parents. Students participating in the outside program are expected to stay at their destinations all period.

Outside program also allows students having a 7th period study hall to go home. But again, a favorite student misconception is to take 'open campus' literally and say they are free to do what they want during a study period. This is not true; students will still

not be allowed to leave school grounds or walk inside, outside or around school grounds without permission passes.

Along with every good thing, of course, come rules and restrictions. The open campus program is a senior-junior privilege. Sophomores are not included in the program presently, however, if Administrators agree that the program is successful, there is a good chance for sophomores to be included. But for those seniors and juniors interested in the program, there's a few rules for you too. A student can participate in open campus only with parental approval and your privilege can be taken away by the school if the rules are violated.

Everything remains the same; open campus is just a plus. The program will be evaluated in May and resubmitted in August, so it's up to you the student to make it work and up to your parents. I hope that open campus can be used by us students as a key to open the door to individual, independent studies at P.V.M.H.S. It's not only a good thing, it's a great thing that students are now treated and trusted as individuals and not masses.

Theodore Curebanas



To West Peabody & all points south



To Peabody Square & all points north



Would a smoking lounge stop this?

who live in Danvers, and Federer, who lives in Gloucester.

Last year Guns & Butter appeared at a BULL sponsored dance at the high school. They appeared with Ruth Knapp and Travis Spook and the Club Wow.

Andi Block

guns and butter

The first album by Guns and Butter, a six-man rock band based in Marblehead, has finally been released. The album, titled simply "Guns and Butter" is on the Cottillion label, a division of Atlantic Records.

The album was recorded last September at Eastern Sounds Recording Studio in Toronto, Ontario. "Guns & Butter" contains ten original songs, written by Lennie Federer, Richard Ploss, and Peter Cohen.

Side one of the album consists of "I Am" "Time Has Wings," "Look at the Day," and "Sometimes." Side two

consists of "It Can't Go On Like This," "Our Album," "Lady Gray," "Family," "Elysium's Butterfly Comes," and "The Wanderer."

The album is reportedly broken in both the Boston area and the San Francisco-Los Angeles area. It is receiving air-play on WMLO in Beverly, WBCN-FM and WBZ-FM in Boston, and WBBF-FM in Framingham. It is also reportedly receiving tremendous air-play in the two West Coast markets.

Guns & Butter just finished a record-breaking week-long engagement at Lennie's at the Village Green in Danvers. The group reportedly played to a packed audience on each of the six nights.

Members of Guns & Butter are Jeff Lyons on lead vocals, Paul Cohen on lead guitar, Peter Cohen on bass guitar, Peter Tucker on drums, Richard Ploss on flute, tenor sax, and auto sax, and Lennie Federer on electric violin. All people are from Marblehead except for Tucker and Ploss,

STEVIE WONDER

Stevie Wonder, undoubtedly sick of being referred to as Motown's blind child prodigy, recently turned 21, which legally absolved him from his long-term contact to the Detroit record empire. Motown of course didn't wish to lose the services of such a talented (and lucrative) performer, so they gave Mr. Wonder exactly what he wanted, which was complete control over the production of his records, and Stevie, as they say in the army, re-upped. Listening to his first record produced by himself, MUSIC OF MY MIND (Tamla), it's obvious that Stevie Wonder has been listening to Sly and especially to the records of his friend Marvin Gaye, but what comesthrough the clearest is that this is a transitional album between two versions of a musician-the record company's, and his own. Using lush but muted instrumentation in the manner of a Brian Wilson, the major effect of this record is a kind of restive mood, an exploration of the various stages of the desire for something that's both musically attainable and completely out of reach. At its best ("Love Having You Around" and "I Love Every Little Thing About You") this record is an interesting look at where Stevie Wonder is headed. There's a smart band on this one, and in the typical Motown manner the musicians aren't listed. I assume Stevie handled the electric piano; the change in that style reflects perfectly the overall change in his music.

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Project Rap, Inc.

In the fall of 1969, the use of hard drugs in the Northshore area reached crisis proportions. The message rang out loud and clear: drugs were no longer a matter of outsiders--our own "children" were now involved! People had begun to see that drugs are not a temporary problem, but a problem that is here and real. The tragedy was apparent--there was no place for ourselves nor our parents to turn to for help with drug related problems. The seriousness of the situation was felt most strongly by a group of local youths: together, people who had been through the drug scene and back had started to reach out and help other young people like themselves! They began Project Rap Inc. and succeeded in involving many more Northshore residents. Rap is staffed by young volunteers, many of whom are ex-drug users. They offer assistance to other people who suffer the negative effects of drugs. Also involved in Rap are many adults who are businessmen, doctors, factory workers, lawyers, clergymen, teachers, salesmen, parents, and generally concerned citizens.

From earliest meetings came a formal organization and by the summer of 1970, Rap Incorporated was legally chartered as a charitable, nonprofit organization.

Jann Adler



EDITORIAL

Walls are an interesting invention of the modern world. In most cases they're used to hold up buildings or divide space. However, the students here have a strange definition of what walls are for. Some of them think that walls are for scribbling their stupid messages for all the world to see. A wall for your thoughts, huh? Sure, people complained when the stairway of the bus loop was painted a garish red. But, what do you want when people have to spray paint their feelings on walls? The stupidity of it can be seen by your friend, Apache, who had the nerve to decorate the freshly painted walls of the bus loop.

The desecration of the walls only seems to be part of the lousy atmosphere and disrespect in this school. Any moron can realize that vandalism does not accomplish anything, and in most cases more hassles. If you want to take your gripes out on something, take it out on thing that is responsible for it. If you don't like something in the school, hassle the administration, not the physical plant. It's a shame that only a few people can spoil things for all.

Photo by Paul O'Leary

SSC lecture

Dr. Rollo May visited Salem State College on April 28 to give a lecture as a part of their arts festival. The noted psychologist had some very interesting things to say including the discussion of the concept of power. Dr. May said that there is "wrong power" as in Vietnam, that is, destructive power and there is "constructive power" which can best be defined as the power of non-violence but that which is still a power in itself. No one can deny the great power and tremendous success of the non-violent activities of Dr. Martin Luther King.

In the discussion period which followed the lecture, Dr. May was asked to comment on the problems of society. Dr. May replied to a question asked on television violence that such violence displayed in movies or on television has little effect on the watcher. He added that television is often used to release pent-up emotions.

Dr. May also reviewed for the audience the well-known book, The Greening of America. He said that a work of this kind "could only come from the Yale campus and from some one, who had a guaranteed income of \$30,000 a year." Dr. May continued by saying that "Dr. Reich is an innocent individual who has a view of affluent America but lacks any other perspective into American society."

Mr. Mello

WRITE FOR THE BULL

Students Using ESP

Attention students: homeroom period will be extended today so the election of "so and so" may be held.

Attention homeroom teachers: please, distribute the ballots to the students.

I recieved a paper with ten names. Reading through, no name rang any bells. I knew that I was supposed to vote for the one who in my opinion would be the best for the office. To me it seemed kind of hard to evaluate a person's ability if I never knew him and had not even heard about him.

The ones who organize the election must, without doubt, think that everybody knows everybody very well in this school which is practically impossible be-

cause of the size of the student body, 2,000 kids. More likely, however, they assume that most of the school population is conversant with the world of ESP. They are sure that a majority of the students are capable of the same feats that Michael Rhodes performs on television every Saturday night.

Do you know that he can just see a person's name and right away he knows everything about him... even what this person himself doesn't know about himself!

I must admit that I don't belong to those fortunate people who have the gift of ESP. I don't like it, but I must confess that I don't vote the way I should.

continued on page 6

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ROTATE!

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To:

E F

with love

K S

hey Juices, how did you
like that ketchup bath.
Watch out for flying mus-
tard.

To all those boys who
stand in the middle of B
house dry up

C house

Hey Jackie W,

What's this with the red
stair case It kills your
eyes in the morning. How
about yellow?

To Lou, How are ya Lov,
See ya later Lov

From Lov

To Billy P.

Kill any frogs lately?

Steve,

How's the copper bus-
siness?

Charlie

Donna S

Wishes to thank you for
putting all my personals
in the Bull

sincerely

Donna

EVERYBODY IS A STAR!!!!

Cheryl:

We figured it out. We
are the ones who changed.
We matured but you stayed
the same.

C.S. and Friends.

Donna S and Kathy S known
as the singing *verbs* will
be on Cutie optintions
May 15, Channel 5

Your vote may hold the
key

its up to you !!!

Need a bug?

Contact Kathy Spofford

Phil C.

Please keep your mouth
shut in art and chemistry

D.K. + B.S. + D.P.

Advice not taken:

Widgets quit while your
behind.

Hey D.S.Sam Adams
and Tom Payne were equal
as radicals. Neither were
greater, no matter what
your definition of "rad-
ical" is.

Ben

ROBBIE-

HEY BIG TIGER-
YOU FINALLY MADE IT!
CONGRADULATIONS ON THE EIGHTH
OF JUNE, SENIOR! BEST OF
LUCK AND LOVE ALWAYS.
JANN

the THREE STOOGES are alive
and well and living on
channel 38 Monday thru Fri-
day at 4:30 P.M.

Avoid all needle drugs -
The only dope worth shoo-
ting is Richard Nixon

To Margie in 6th period
senior lounge,

Quit singing the songs
in senior lounge if ya
don't know the words.

Everybody in senior lounge
Did ya get my post card?

B.A.

Billy,

I still like you and I'll
never forget you.

hey Donna

he hates you and I don't
blame him,

To the MAN

Who did you know that
got you the job as warden?

A senior who's
sick of getting
the short end of
the stick

to Bobby Allison,
I give up!

me

To! Bus I!

PAT

Need a dead worm?

Contact Quig or Spoffy
Bus 1 girls

Eddie,

We Don't have much time
left. Why don't you stare
back?

The girl at first

lunch

found

one ecology book
loose something Phil?

dill

pill

will

to bucket and basket:

meet you at McDonald's
some Friday night. Keep it
going - sue and dave

To the boy with the spic
wagon:

I love you! Stay with
me. See you at work at
the right rear of the
store. Sue

Our Poisoned Planet

-CAN WE SAVE IT?

Michael, my love, my one
and only. My knees knock
whenever I see you.xxoxOx.
(hope I didnt embarrasse
you.) Guess Who!

Ed,

I'm not 2 faced.

1-Hows it coming Gard?

2-Rick Jones+Peggy Boyd-1yr

4 months

3-Mary M+BillyC 4 months

4-????????????????????

Dawn:

Too bad the Voc boy's are
up here so often, huh?!!!

A Friend

T.W. and S.D.,

She's not even Irish.

Your friends,
the Greeks

30¢- yet the lunches are
getting worse!

Give the cooks a raise
maybe they'll cook better!

Sharon loves Denise
but does
DENISE love Sharon
signed, a jealous admirer
PS-can I get in onthe action

To: Phyliss P.

Watch out for running
Helen.

Spot N.

A nite at Pages is an
experience to remember.
Patty

Advice not taken:
Widgets quit while your
behind.

D.K. as always

D.T.--

Here's your postcard.
Weather's great. Having
fun. See you soon--

Me

(I always think of you)

PERSONALS

Entertainment

Ella Fitzgerald: Only Bos-
ton concert, Symphony Hall;
Sunday May 14, 8:30 p.m.

Lee Michaels: May 17, at
8:00 p.m. Orpheum/Aquarius
Theatre, Boston.

Van Morrison: Friday, May
19, Aquarius Theatre.

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folk, Jazz, poetry, and story
telling. All musicians wel-
come.

PERSONALS

The P.H.S. Administration
has really flipped out this
time. I got caught skipp-
ing the last day of school
before vacation - but no-
body said anything to me.
So, it's not on the record.
Fouled up again - huh, guys?

Hey Sharon P. Stop throwing
pennies at me in the tea-
hers lunch room

A Little Friend

Barb

Who is it this week?

Congratulations to the
Cafeteria workers -- The
lunches are really nour-
ishing. Did you notice how
many kids go home sick
from school?

Unit director J, will you
rent us a locker in A house

Sincerely

Cushion, Quig Spofford

Santa Paula

Cathy C - I know you
aren't participating in
gym and I'm gonna tell.

i.c.

To my roommate s

manitain!

Remember 261

Miss Crowell

Why don't you give me
the '98' I deserve?

F.P.

to the fag's at 3rd lunch
We love you.

The Girls

To: Danny Bettencourt

Remember that dance here
at Peabody High School? I
never did like you! And
stop giving me dirty looks!

Greetings from our click!
To quig, (alias Bibb the
midget)

What happened in Florida?
I sure had a good time!

Donna

Rick Yaffi and Holly Ballard
1 yr. 6 months

Chinky
is Manny's diamond
still on your finger?
Barb

to my 1st period biology
class with Mr. T.
Watch out for the worms.
Donna

To the pigs spitting in
the bubbler...the bubbler
is not a spatoon! Grow up!

Bob

I feel bad for you
I hate them too

Another hater

To: Mr. Macular
How are your bananas?
Sophy

To Ears,
From the other ones who
know. Your friends,
N.E., N.M., J.M.

To my Manley boyfriend, Mark,
I love you XXOX.
Sue Saint

Brian M.,
How's the coldslaw?
C.L.

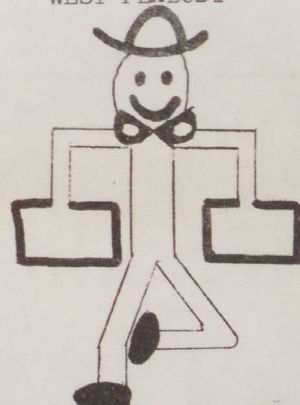
to the people of MODOR,
"FRODO LIVES"
signed, GANDAIPH

L.C., P.S., C.S. & L.F.:
Been kissed by any
nice girls lately? I was!

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ON AN EXCITING
TRIP TO ANYWHERE
IN THE WORLD

esp

Continued
from page 4

I'm not able to vote for the most capable nominee. Although I am ashamed of it, I leave the decisions up to fate. Everytime I have a ballot before me I close my eyes and let my pencil drop on the paper. Where the pencil leaves a mark that is my choice.

I know that this is not the right procedure and I promise that I will watch Mike Rhodes' Sixth Sense every Saturday (even the reruns) and try my best to learn his skill. I also sincerely recommend this program to all students who have similar trouble when it comes to school election.

By the way, if it should be discovered that the percentage of students possessing the gift of ESP is not as great as it is generally assumed, maybe, it would help if the candidates were allowed to introduce themselves during the homeroom periods. They could visit the homerooms and give a little speech. If this should be looked upon unfavorably by the principle or by others because it would mean extended homeroom periods, I have another suggestion.

Why not let the candidates use a few minutes that are spent for announcing the menu and weather over the loudspeaker?

I don't think that it is necessary to report that it is raining or sunny. I'd like to remind the reporters that most classrooms have their own windows. Definitely there should not be announced the menu. Don't the reporters realize that for every kid

the only thrilling event of a school day is the lunch? Don't the reporters notice the kids running through the corridors and rushing into cafeteria in expectation of great surprise.

As trivial as it may seem hot dog or hamburger is a "great surprise" ev-

erytime. It is cruel to take the thrill out of our boring school days completely while the saved time could be put into better use.

At last the students could vote for candidates of their choice and not just guess.

Guessing is hardly the right way to elect to democratic government.

Dana Mayer '72

ask the bulls

Q: How many pieces of automated junk have been launched into orbit since Sputnik, 14 years ago?

A: APOLLO 15 MADE IT 5,351.

Q: How long do you suppose it will be before tombstones are made of plastic?

A: WHEN PLASTIC FLOWERS STOP SELLING.

Q: If counted in days, how long have the Paris peace talks listed?

A: 2½ YEARS, WITH CAMBODIA AND LAOS INVADED MEANWHILE.

Q: Nixon's birthday?

A: JANUARY 9, 1913, THE YEAR OF THE PIG ON THE ORIENTAL ZODIAC.

Q: Nixon's bowling average?

A: 152.

Q: Who holds the school's official speed record for downing a half pint of milk in the cafeteria?

A: BRUCE BUEHNER: 4.4 SECONDS (FEB. 1972)

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ASK THE BULLS is a regularly featured column. Have a question? Ask the Bulls! Chuk your question in the Bull Box.



AMERICA

As far as the eye can see... desks. Women sitting behind them, backs straight and stiff, transferring from one sheet to another something someone else has written, and someone else will receive, but no one really needs.

Men and women on an assembly line...putting together a product that will fall apart, will blow up, will cost many times more than it is worth; men and women with no say in the building of the product, or where it will go.

In the factory and the field, in classrooms and coalmines, in hospital and home...Americans toil. For what? For the next meal, the next paycheck, the next promise, for the shoddy goods and polluted air, for their children who will rebel at the prospect of being part of this meaningless and empty life? For the profit of the few, the many give their lives in this dull routine. Many people anxiously watching the clock at work, only to be so exhausted during their leisure, that TV becomes the only way to pass the time.

America is soaked with alienation; with people who can't afford to be sick and can't find a way to be healthy; with poverty and hunger, drudgery and boredom; with veterans returning from an immoral war who can't find jobs; with racism; with heroin; with despair.

That despair is not just the despair of the poor and those who toil endlessly. That despair extends to those whose basic material needs have been met as well. The vast majority of people are prevented from realizing their human potentials in freedom and creativity. The technology and to liberate us from toil and allow us to meet everyone's basic human needs is used, instead, to enslave us to a life of drudgery. Nothing is more clear in America today than the huge distance between the actuality of America in the 70's and its potential. And nothing is more frustrating than the endless line of politicians and opportunists, some of whom recognize the existence of a problem, but none of whom dare offer any real alternative.

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